

REMARKS

Claims in the Case

Claims 3, 13, 19 and 27 are being cancelled. Claims 1, 4, 6, 14, 17, 20, 22 and 28 are being amended. Claims 1-2, 4-12, 14-18, 20-26 and 28 are currently pending in the case.

Amendment to the Specification and Formal Drawings

Applicant has amended the Specification to correct typographical errors noted during preparation of formal drawings. Replacement sheets of drawings have also been enclosed. Formal drawings have now been submitted.

Claims Indicated As Allowable

The Office Action rejected certain pending claims. The Office Action also indicated that claims 3-7, 11-16, 19-22 and 26-28 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Amendments to the Claims

Applicant does not agree with the claim rejections set forth in the Office Action. Nevertheless, Applicant has amended rejected independent claim 1 to include the limitations of allowable claim 3 and has amended rejected independent claim 17 to include the limitations of allowable claim 19. Applicant reserves the right to pursue broader or different claims in one or more continuation applications.

Based upon the above amendments, claims 1 and 17, as well as their dependent claims, should now be allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that pending new claims 1-2, 4-12, 14-18, 20-26 and 28 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the phone number indicated below with any questions or comments, or to otherwise facilitate expeditious and compact prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian W. Peterman
Registration No. 37,908
Attorney for Applicant

O'KEEFE, EGAN & PETERMAN, LLP
1101 Capital of Texas Highway South
Building C, Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78746
(512) 347-1611
FAX: (512) 347-1615